GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3024
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
PAYMENT OF ARREARS OF WAGES TO COAL WORKERS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal companies have to pay huge arrears of wages to their workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has cleared the payment of arrears of wages to the workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the arrears of wages are likely to be paid to the workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO):

(a) and (b) Consequent upon of the National Coal Wage Agreement-VII (NCWA-V11) effective from 1.7.2001 which was signed on 15.07.2005, arrear of wages had accrued. As regards payment of arrear wages, it was stipulated in the agreement that arrear wages would be paid to all the separated employees immediately and for the existing employees the modalities would be jointly worked out by the trade unions and management, keeping in view the revival packages of Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited. In pursuance of the said provisions, the arrear wages were paid to all the separated employees.

(c) and (d) As regards existing employees, the modality for payment of arrear wages as per NCWA-VII has already been worked out and an agreement has been reached with the Central Trade Unions. As per the said agreement, the wage arrears are to be paid in three installments; the first installment by 31st May, 2006, the second installment before Diwali festival and the last installment by 31st March, 2007. Accordingly, the first installment of arrears has been paid to the employees. The other two installments would be paid in due course as per the agreement.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply given above.